

Ser. No. 09/817,324

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01P04786US**Amended claims**

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An authentication system~~ used by a first application for managing user access to at least one of a plurality of network compatible applications, comprising:

an authentication processor for,
receiving user identification information including a user identifier and

initiating authentication of said user identification information using an authentication service; and

~~a at least one communication processor for,~~

communicating an authentication service identifier and a corresponding user identifier to a managing application, said authentication service identifier identifying an authentication service used to authenticate identification information of said corresponding user and

automatically communicating application specific context information in a data field of a URL to a second application of said plurality of network compatible applications in response to a user command to initiate execution of said second application and in response to authentication of said user identification information.

2. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein

said application specific context information comprises at least one of, (a) a user identifier and (b) a patient identifier and

~~said communication processor also communicates a session identifier identifying a user initiated session of operation of said first application to said managing application~~ encrypts said address portion of said URL and incorporates, said encrypted address portion of said URL, together with said address portion of said URL in non-encrypted form, into a single processed URL data string.

3. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein

said communication processor also communicates a session identifier identifying a user initiated session of operation of said first application to said managing application and

said user identification information includes a password associated with said user identifier.

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4. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein
said communication processor communicates said authentication
service identifier and said corresponding user identifier to a managing application for
compilation of a database.

5. (Original) A system according to claim 4, wherein
said database is accessible by other applications of said plurality of
network compatible applications for mapping a non-authenticated user identifier of a
participant application to an authenticated and different user identifier of another
application.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~An authentication system~~ used for processing
user access to network compatible applications, comprising:

an authentication processor for,
receiving authentication service identifier and corresponding
user identifier data pairs from at least one of a plurality of applications,
compiling a database using said data pairs,
mapping a non-authenticated user identifier of a second
application to an authenticated different user identifier of a first application using said
database; and

~~a~~ at least one communication processor for,
communicating said authenticated different user identifier to
said second application and
automatically communicating application specific context
information in a data field of a URL to said second application in response to a user
command to initiate execution of said second application.

7. (Original) A system according to claim 6, wherein
said authentication service identifier identifies an authentication
service used to authenticate identification information comprising a user identifier of
said corresponding user to provide an authenticated user identifier.

8. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 6, wherein
said authentication processor performs said mapping using said
database by matching an authentication service identifier of said second application
with an authentication service identifier of said first application and providing said
~~corresponding~~ authenticated different user identifier of said first application as said a
mapped user identifier.

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9. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 6, including an input processor for receiving a session identifier identifying a user initiated session of operation wherein

said at least one communication processor encrypts said address portion of said URL and incorporates, said encrypted address portion of said URL, together with said address portion of said URL in non-encrypted form, into a single processed URL data string and provides a key supporting decryption of said encrypted address portion, to a destination system.

10. (Original) A system according to claim 6, wherein said first application is a parent application and said second application is a child application and

said authenticated different user identifier of said first application is used by said second application eliminating the need for said second application to authenticate a user identifier.

11. (Original) A system according to claim 6, wherein said communication processor communicates a parameter to said second application, said parameter identifying success or failure of said mapping.

12. (Original) A system according to claim 6, wherein said authentication processor receives an authentication service identifier and corresponding user identifier data pair from said first application and said first application is a parent application and said second application is a child application.

13. (Original) A system according to claim 6, wherein said authentication service identifier employs a predetermined data format for use by said plurality of applications in constraining size of said database.

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14. (Currently Amended) ~~An authentication system~~ used for processing user access to Internet compatible applications, comprising:

an authentication processor for,
receiving an authentication service identifier and corresponding user identifier from a parent application, and
mapping a non-authenticated user identifier of a child application to an authenticated different user identifier of said parent application; and
a at least one communication processor for,
communicating said authenticated different user identifier to said child application and
automatically communicating application specific context information in a data field of a URL to said child application in response to a user command to initiate execution of said child application and in response to communicating said authenticated different user identifier.

15. (Original) A system according to claim 14, wherein
said parent application establishes a session of user operation and
said child application uses said authentication system to participate in said session of user operation.

16. (Original) A system according to claim 14, wherein
said authentication processor compiles a database using data pairs comprising an authentication service identifier and corresponding user identifier and a data pair is received from individual applications of a plurality of concurrently operating Internet compatible applications and
said authentication processor uses said database in mapping said non-authenticated user identifier of said child application to said authenticated different user identifier of said parent application.

17. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 16, wherein
said authentication processor performs said mapping using said database by matching an authentication service identifier of said child application with an authentication service identifier of said parent application and providing said ~~corresponding~~ authenticated different user identifier of said parent application as said a mapped user identifier.

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18. (Original) A system according to claim 14, wherein
said authentication service identifier identifies an authentication
service used to authenticate identification information comprising a user identifier of
said corresponding user to provide an authenticated user identifier.

19. (Original) A system according to claim 14, wherein
said authenticated different user identifier of said parent application is
used by said child application eliminating the need for said child application to
authenticate a user identifier.

20. (Original) A system according to claim 14, wherein
access to said child application by a user is enabled by said child
application in response to receiving said authenticated different user identifier without
a subsequent re-entry of user identification information via a logon menu.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~An authentication method~~ used for
processing user access to Internet compatible applications, comprising the ~~steps~~
activities of:

receiving an authentication service identifier and corresponding user
identifier from a parent application, and

mapping a non-authenticated user identifier of a child application to an
authenticated different user identifier of said parent application; ~~and~~

communicating said authenticated different user identifier to said child
application; ~~and~~

automatically communicating application specific context
information in a data field of a URL to said child application in response to a user
command to initiate execution of said child application and in response to
communicating said authenticated different user identifier.

22. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21, including
the step activities of

receiving data pairs, comprising an authentication service identifier
and corresponding user identifier, from individual applications of a plurality of
concurrently operating Internet compatible applications,

compiling a database using said data pairs, and

using said database in mapping said non-authenticated user identifier
of said child application to said authenticated different user identifier of said parent
application.

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23. (Currently Amended) ~~An authentication~~ method used by a first application for managing user access to at least one of a plurality of network compatible applications, comprising the ~~steps~~ activities of:

receiving user identification information including a user identifier;

initiating authentication of said user identification information using an authentication service; ~~and~~

communicating an authentication service identifier and a corresponding user identifier to a managing application, said authentication service identifier identifying an authentication service used to authenticate identification information of said corresponding user; and

automatically communicating application specific context information in a data field of a URL to a second application of said plurality of network compatible applications in response to a user command to initiate execution of said second application and in response to authentication of said user identification information.